Calendar No. 1456

82D CONGRESS, 2d Session } SENATE { REPORT No. 1527

UNIV. OF MICH.
MAY 22 1952
LAW LIBRARY

KAREN CHRISTENE EISEN MURDOCK

MAY 12, 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MCCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 3008]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (S. 3008) for the relief of Karen Christene Eisen Murdock, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to grant to the minor adopted child of citizens of the United States the status of a nonquota immigrant which is the status normally enjoyed by the alien minor children of citizens of the United States.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiary of the bill was born in Germany on April 26, 1951, and has been adopted by Sgt. and Mrs. David L. Murdock who are citizens of the United States presently in Germany where Sergeant Murdock is on duty with our Armed Forces.

Senator Robert S. Kerr, the author of the bill, has furnished a number of letters and documents in connection with the bill, among which are the following:

UNITED STATES SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE,
April 14, 1952.

Senator PAT MCCARRAN,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SENATOR MCCARRAN: Attached hereto are exhibits and supporting evidence in connection with S. 3008 which I introduced last Thursday, April 10.

I would appreciate it if you would have the attachments reviewed and advise me if it will be necessary to obtain additional evidence in support of my bill.

From my examination of the attached evidence, this presents the usual situation of a married, childless couple, who, while on duty in Germany, found a baby whom they wish to adopt. You will observe that the sergeant's tour of duty will end in August, this year, and I am most hopeful that this legislation will be enacted in time for them to bring this child home with them when they return.

I have contacted Mr. Massey of your staff, and he has suggested that this evidence be sbmitted for review as to its sufficiency.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

ROB'T S. KERR.

THREE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FOURTH
ORDNANCE DEPOT COMPANY,
APO 46, CARE OF POSTMASTER, NEW YORK,
Windshiem, January 28, 1952.

Senator ROBERT KERR,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: As you are my Senator from Oklahoma I will appeal to you with my problem. I have tried everything else. Senator Kerr, we have adopted a baby while we have been here in Germany. We have had her 5 months. They told us when we got her that we could take her home with us when our tour of duty was up over here. Now they tell us they don't know when she can enter the States. Senator Kerr, she is ours and we can't go off and leave our baby. We are due to return to the States in August of this year.

Won't you please do something so we can bring our baby home with us.

We have been married 10 years and have never had any children of our own, and when we find one that we took to our heart, they don't know when we can get her home. Senator Kerr, can't something be done to help us?

Maybe you are saying, Why didn't we adopt one in the States? Senator Kerr, my husband is in the Army, he is an enlisted man, and the adoption agencies won't let servicemen have children because they move around too much and don't have the securities to put up.

Senator Kerr, we are appealing to you to help us.

MRS. DAVID L. MURDOCK.

OFFICE OF THE CHAPLAIN,
SEVENTY-FIRST ORDNANCE BATTALION,
APO 46, United States Army, February 21, 1952.

Hon. ROBERT S. KERR,
United States Senator,
Washington, D. C.

Re Mrs. and Master Sgt. David L. Murdock RA6284408, Three Hundred and Thirty-fourth Ordnance Depot Company, APO 46, New York, N. Y.

DEAR SIR: For the past 5 months it has been my privilege to serve as chaplain of the Seventy-first Ordnance Battalion, of which the Three Hundred and Thirty-fourth Ordnance Depot Company is a part. I have been in the home of Sergeant and Mrs. Murdock many times and firmly believe that their home is definitely Christian, their conduct meritorious, and their love for the child in question is truly that of godly parents.

They have been permitted under EUCOM regulations to adopt a 6-week-old baby girl, which is now 9 months of age. This child has completely filled that lonely place that is always to be found in the childless marriage. It is my opinion that to permit adoption and then make it so difficult upon their return to the zone of the interior to bring their children, is the grossest sort of injustice. I feel that it is inhuman and unbecoming of a Christian nation. I implore your help as well as all others who you might influence to alleviate this heart-rending condition among our Armed Forces abroad.

I highly recommend therefore since there is a possibility that Mrs. Murdock may be called to the bedside of her mother, who at this time is critically ill, that this case be promptly acted upon favorably.

Sincerely,

DANIEL P. JENKINS,
Chaplain (Captain) United States Army.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (S. 3008) should be enacted.

○